In so far as National Rural Employment Programme is concerned, instances were reported in the past of diversion of NREP funds for works outside the scope of the programme. The state Governments were asked to recoup the amount to NREP account, which they have agreed to do.

Recently, the main complaint regarding division of resources given under the programme has been that rice supplied to the State under the programme is being diverted to public distribution system and is being utilised under the State Scheme of distributing rice at Rs. 2/- per kg. On coming to notice, this was objected by the Government of India last year. Thereupon, the State Government agreed to evolve a revised procedure which would ensure the distribution of rice to NREP|RLEGP workers as per their entitlements. Complaints have again been received that even after this, the rice supplied under NREP is being utilised under the State Scheme of distributing rice at Rs. 2/- per kg. and hence the diversion of funds provided for a central scheme is continuing. We have again written about this to the State Government.

Modernisation of Rourkela Steel Plant

781. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether West Germany have offered to aid India in modernisation of the Rourkela Steel Plant;

(b) if so, what are the details of the offer; and

(c) what is Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) to (c) The West German Government have indicated that they could be interested in the modrnisation of Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP). The matter of modalities of aid is under consideration of the Government of India.

RSP modernisation has not yet been posed formally to West German Government for financial assistance.

New policy for states prone to natural calamities

782. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have framed a new policy to help the States perenially struck by natural calamities like drought and floods;

(b) if so, what are the broad features thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken to enforce the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No general revision of policy for financing the States affected by natural calamities has been framed.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Uniformity in the enforcement of land reform measures

783. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the fact that no uniformity has so far been followed in the different States and Union Territories in the matter of enforcing the land reform measures; and